Malmesbury
February 26: 1897

To The Chairman and Members
of the Rural District Council -

My Lord and Gentlemen -
I hereby send you the annual
Report for the year ending Dec: 31: 1896

There have been 244 Births -
Birthrate 23. 90 per 1000

There have been 157 deaths -
Deathrate 15. 40 per 1000

Infant deathrate = 96 per 1000 Births Registered

Included in the general Deathrate
are 4 deaths from Typhoid fever;
2, from Diphtheria; 4, from Diarrhœa
& Dysentery; 8, from Phthisis; 29, from
other chest complaints, such as
Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy.

The rate of Infectious fever cases 1.6 per 1000 -

The deathrate of Infectious fever cases .8 per 1000 -

22 new cases of Infectious sickness were notified to me by the other medical practitioners, and 18, I notified to myself, that being equal to 40 altogether.

Smallpox - None

Scarletina - 4 cases at Somerford Magna & Startley -

1 case in the Sherston District.

1 case at Hullavington.

Diphtheria -

1 Case at Somerford Magna

1 Case at Norton

Erysipelas -

16 cases in various parts of the District.

Typhoid Fever } 18 cases at Brokenborough Without (5 cases being removed to the Malmesbury Cottage Hospital).

1 Case at Norton

2 Cases at Corston

Brokenborough. The Typhoid fever cases at Brokenborough are instructive; 12 of them having occurred in one family. A boy aged 11 contracted the fever on Feb: 27 - at a house in Westport, and carried it to his home in Brokenborough. The disease having once been started the conditions were favourable for its spreading, because there was a blocked drain, and a highly contaminated well - The house being over-crowded, 4 of the above-named cases were removed to the Cottage Hospital at Malmesbury, and also a patient from an

adjoining house, suffering from the same complaint. If this had not been done, the disease would have spread more than it did. The dry summer and the low state of the wells, from February to July would have facilitated the progress of the disease. The other remedial measure adopted was the cleansing of the wells.

<u>Corston</u> - The 2 Typhoid fever cases here are also instructive. There was a faulty stone drain on the premises, a very faulty leaky W: C: and contaminated water. 2 deaths occurred here - The house was insanitary then, and is insanitary still. The water from the well in the garden is <u>suspicious</u>, and the water from a well in the field above the house throughout to be good, is <u>decidedly bad</u>.

Norton – A case of Diphtheria, and a case of Typhoid fever occurred in a farm-house at the rear of Norton House. The Typhoid fever case was aged 50, and the Diphtheria case aged 5 – The water which supplied the farm-house was polluted by the drains in the ~~farm~~-Yard – These drains have since been altered –

The Isolation Hospital – One case of Small-pox came into the Urban District, and this was promptly isolated at a cottage at Backbridge, which is rented by the Urban Sanitary Authority, in case of an outbreak of Infectious disease, such as Small-pox, etc – On the occurrence of this case, I directed your attention to the necessity of having some means for ~~of~~ the Isolation of ~~the~~ Infectious diseases for the Rural

District. Consequently a temporary wooden hospital has been erected close to the ~~the~~ above-named cottage. The Rural Sanitary Authority to make use of the cottage, ~~at~~ and the Urban Sanitary Authority always ~~to~~ have at their command 3 beds at the new hospital.

Vaccination. — In my report for the year, 1895, I made a memorandum that 282 children, in a period of 7 years were unvaccinated in the Rural District, and 167 in the Urban District. The modified case of Small-pox which was isolated at the Back-bridge cottage, gave an impetus to Vaccination, and many of the defaulters brought their children ~~to~~ be vaccinated. So that in the year 1894 there were 21 registered children unvaccinated,

in the Rural District, - in 1895 16 unvaccinated; but in 1896, there are 67 unvaccinated, showing that the feeling in favour of vaccination has again died out —

Measles - Children have been attacked with this complaint at Sherston & Rodbourne, & the Schools were closed in each of these villages for a limited period during the year -

Sherston Water Supply } I have on different occasions investigated this. Most of the inhabitants either drink the water from the river, or from underground reservoirs which receive ~~the~~ the water from the roofs of the houses - The water from the river would be all right, as it is close to the springs - except that it gets polluted at different places

by the drainage into it, and during 6 weeks of the year sheep are washed at the commencement of the stream – About 90 Cottagers drink the water from the river; there are about 40 surface wells, and 76 reservoirs or tanks – Some of these tanks are only walled round with stones underground; these reservoirs require to be cleansed oftener, and are empty in dry summers —

I Remain
My Lords Gentlemen
Your obedient Servant.
Charles W. Pitt.

K$_2$ 3.

(A)

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1896, in the Malmesbury Rural District, classified according to DISEASES, AGES, and LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (See note 4 on back of sheet.) (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.) (a)	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined Ages. At all ages. (b)	Under 1 year. (c)	1 and under 5. (d)	5 and under 15. (e)	15 and under 25. (f)	25 and under 65. (g)	65 and upwards. (h)	(i)
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
								Under 5 / 5 upwds.
Totals	157	25	14	6	6	47	59	Under 5
								5 upwds.

Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of Age.

(i)	1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Fevers. Continued	8 Fevers. Relapsing	9 Fevers. Puerperal.	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12 Measles.	13 Whooping Cough.	14 Diarrhœa and Dysentery	15 Rheumatic Fever.	16 Phthisis.	17 Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy.	18 Heart Disease.	19 *	20 Injuries.	21 All Other Diseases.	22 Total.
Under 5																						
5 upwds.																						
Under 5																						
5 upwds.																						
Under 5																						
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Totals: Under 5			1	1		1						4	4	2			8			6	18	39
Totals: 5 upwds.			1			3			1		1	2		2		8	21	14			59	118

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality. *See Note 5 on back.*

Deaths occurring outside the district among persons belonging thereto.								Under 5 / 5 upwds.																		
Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								Under 5 / 5 upwds.																		

* The heading of column 19 is left blank for the insertion of Influenza, or any other disease which it may be thought desirable to record.

NOTES ON TABLES A AND B.

NOTE 1. *Medical Officers of Health of "Combined Districts" must make a separate Return for the District of each District Council.*

2. *Medical Officers of Health acting for a portion only of the District of a District Council should write, in the heading of the Table, the designation of the Division for which they act.*

3. *The words "Urban," "Rural," or "Metropolitan" must be inserted in the appropriate space in the heading, according as the District is Urban or Rural, or is within the Metropolitan Area.*

4. The "*Localities*" adopted for the purpose of these statistics should be areas of known population; such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships or wards.

As stated at the head of the first column in each Table, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the deaths in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

5. *The deaths which have to be classified in this Table* (A), and summed up in the horizontal line of "Totals," are the whole of those *registered* as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate, to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be. Details concerning the corrective figures, *e.g.*, the institutions that have been considered, or the particular localities to which corrections apply, may appear in the text of the report or in supplementary tables.

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.

Area in Acres 57448

Population (1891) 10201

" (Estimated to middle of 1896) 10500

Death Rates.
- General 15.4 — per 1,000 Population, estimated to middle of 1896.
- Infant (under one year of age) 96 — per 1,000 Births Registered.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

Charles W. Pitt *Medical Officer of Health.*

(Date) February 26, 1897.

W B & L (555v)—67735—10200-10-96

K² 11.

(B)

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, *coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year* 1896, *in the* Malmesbury Rural *District; classified according to* DISEASES, AGES *and* LOCALITIES.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate localities. (See Note 2 on back of sheet.) (a.)	Population at all Ages. Census 1891. (b.)	Population at all Ages. Estimated to middle of 1896. (c.)	Registered Births. (d.)	Aged under 5 or over 5. (e.)	New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health. 1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid.	7 Fevers. Continued	8 Fevers. Relapsing	9 Fevers. Puerperal	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12	13	Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital. 1 Smallpox.	2 Scarlatina.	3 Diphtheria.	4 Membranous Croup.	5 Fevers. Typhus.	6 Fevers. Enteric or Typhoid	7 Fevers. Continued	8 Fevers. Relapsing	9 Fevers. Puerperal	10 Cholera.	11 Erysipelas.	12	13
Cricklade (Magna)	530			Under 5											1															
				5 upwds.		4	1								1															
Startley				Under 5																										
				5 upwds.																										
Brokenborough	320			Under 5						3														1						
Hilmarton				5 upwds.						10					2									4						
Lyneham, Magna & Bradenstoke, with Alderton	1611			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.		1									2															
Sherston	757		244	Under 5																										
				5 upwds.											1															
Rudwell	778			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.											1															
Corston	99			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.			1			1																				
Malmesbury	543			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.		1																								
Norton	367			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.						2																				
Garsdon	141			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.											2															
Minchinhampton	1185			Under 5																										
				5 upwds.									1																	
Totals				Under 5						3					1									1						
				5 upwds.		6	2			13			1		9									4						

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District Yes. Since when? March 25, 1890 Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated Isolation Hospital Situated in the Urban District - The Cottage Hospital, being used for the purpose

NOTES ON TABLE B.

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

NOTE 1. The present *Table B.* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. *(a)*, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to the local incidence of consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*

W B & L (555u) 67749—10200-10-96

Summary of Work, etc. – continued

20	Defective pumps repaired or new pumps erected to existing wells –	none
21	Leaky taps repaired where drawing from public mains	none
22	Houses connected with sewers	none
23	Houses connected with Water Mains	none
24	Earth, pail, or improved privies constructed, or existing privies altered	6
25	Privies and W.C.'s repaired; W.C.'s supplied with water	none
26	Cisterns cleansed, repaired, or covered	none
27	Animals improperly kept removed	none
28	Samples of water taken for analysis –	—
29	Samples of food or drink taken for Analysis	—
30	Compensation paid for destruction of infected bedding	Nil
31	Seizures of unsound meat, etc	none
32	Nuisances reported or detected	53
33	Nuisances abated	53
34	Notices served	20
35	Summonses taken out	one
35	Convictions	one

Signed William Clark

C: County of Wilts

Summary of Work done through the Sanitary Inspector in the Rural Sanitary District of Malmesbury, during the year ending December 31: 1896 —

(To be sent to the Clerk of the County Council with the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report:)

		Total Number for the Year	Results of Inspection, etc
1	Complaints received	14	Abated
2	Cottages inspected	200	
3	Lodging houses inspected	none in the district	
4	Slaughter houses inspected	1	
5	Bake-houses inspected	—	
6	Dairies & Milk-shops inspected	26	
7	Cowsheds inspected	26	
8	Workshops inspected	—	
9	Filthy houses cleansed, sec: 46. Public Health Act 1875	—	
10	Houses disinfected	—	
11	Overcrowding abated	6	
12	Houses placed in ~~proper~~ habitable repair	—	
13	Houses closed	2	
14	Houses erected or re-built, for which "Certificates" were applied	None	
15	"Certificates" granted	None	
16	"Certificates" deferred	None	
17	Wells sunk, or improved supplies of water afforded	—	
18	Wells cleansed or repaired	8	
19	Wells closed	None	